



Kentucky's Mathematics Achievement Fund Supports Students, Families, and Teachers



Mercer County Elementary School (MCES), like many other schools that receive the Mathematics Achievement Fund (MAF) grant, involves families by holding Family Math events. Shown here (left) are members of the Mercer County Football Team who were on hand to play math games with students and their families. The football team coach awards a helmet sticker to the players who participate in Family Math events.



Researchers at the Commonwealth Institute for Parent Leadership have concluded, regardless of ethnic or economic background, students with involved parents are more likely to achieve at higher levels and go to college. **Involving families is just one of the activities undertaken by schools that participate in the KCM Primary Mathematics Intervention Program and receive the MAF.**

"I'm so glad my child has Math Club (math intervention) to go to. It helps them see outside the box...it teaches them the how and why of math," says Derek, a parent at MCES.

Superintendent of Mercer County Schools, Dennis Davis reflects on the impact of the MAF and Family Math events. He says, "We have seen tremendous growth in our teachers and the way mathematics is taught at our school since having a full time Mathematics Intervention Teacher. [Traci] has provided our staff with the resources they need to understand the new Common Core Standards and to put them into action in their mathematics classrooms." Furthermore, "these events have created an atmosphere of mutual respect and trust between our school, the families of our students, and the community, [now] our students demonstrate a higher level of understanding and an improved attitude toward mathematics."



MCES Mathematics Intervention Teacher Traci Brown (above) shared a creative display with colleagues at the 2011 Kentucky Council of Teachers of Mathematics (KCTM) Annual Conference with ideas for conducting Family Math events. Congratulations to Traci for receiving the competitive 2011 Mathematics Education Service Achievement award from the KCTM!

Traci Brown says, "Since Family Math Nights, students' perceptions and awareness of math have increased."

She reflects on the importance of the Mathematics Achievement Fund (MAF), indicating "because of the MAF, our teachers are receiving the training they need to ensure our students have this kind of deep understanding; without the MAF we would not be able to afford this kind of training."